



**One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009**  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 31**

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**Chairperson:** Rich Pahls  
**Committee:** Banking, Commerce and Insurance  
**Date of Hearing:** January 20, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 31 would amend the Public Accountancy Act to allow for greater mobility of CPAs from other states and accountants from other countries into Nebraska, but also would enhance regulation by Nebraska over such persons.

The bill would allow non-Nebraska CPAs to exercise practice privileges in Nebraska immediately without the need to obtain licensure by reciprocity, to register, or to pay a fee. The bill also would allow the Nebraska State Board of Public Accountancy to grant foreign accountants temporary practice privileges incident to their regular practice and in conformity with the rules and regulations of the board. The bill would require the board to charge foreign accountants who are granted temporary practice privileges a fee not to exceed fifty dollars.

The bill would strengthen the board's regulatory authority by providing that a non-Nebraska CPA exercising the practice privilege or a foreign accountant exercising the temporary practice privilege consents, along with his or her firm, to the jurisdiction and disciplinary authority of the board. The bill would provide that any such non-Nebraska CPA exercising the practice privilege or foreign accountant exercising the temporary practice privilege who performs attestation services for a Nebraska entity may do so only through a firm which holds a Nebraska permit.

The bill would make a Nebraska CPA subject to discipline in this state for acts committed in other states.

CPA mobility legislation has been enacted in 28 states. It has been or will be initiated in 17 other states in 2009. The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) and the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) support mobility legislation. Mobility provisions are included within the national Uniform Accountancy Act.

The bill also would amend sections throughout the Public Accountancy Act to make updating and clean-up changes. Among these, the bill would provide that the annual register of permit holders and board members shall be made available by the board to the permit holders instead of printed and mailed to them. The bill would change the name of the board's cash fund

from “Public Accountancy Fund” to “Certified Public Accountancy Fund.” The bill would eliminate obsolete provisions throughout the act including those regarding “public accountants,” who, as a group, were grandfathered under the act in 1957 and of whom, the last one retired in 2006.

**Principal Introducer:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Senator Rich Pahls**